

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are hereby canceled. New claims 10 - 29 are added.

Double Patenting - 09,475,447; 09,475,449

Claims 1, 6, 7 and 9 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1,5,8 and 7, respectively, of co-pending application No. 09/475,447.

Claims 1, 6 7 and 9 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1,6,4 and 8 respectively of co-pending application No. 09/475,449.

Claims 1-9 are hereby canceled. New claims 10 - 29 are added.

The office actions states, "A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 (c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a non-statutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application."

Therefore, a terminal disclaimer is filed as attached wherein the applicant disclaims the patent term of any issued patent from the present application that extends beyond the term of any patent that results from applications 09/475,449 or 09/475,447

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Casement. Claims 1-9 are hereby canceled. New claims 10 - 29 are presented.

Claim 1

Claim 1 of the application is canceled. New independent claim 10 is directed to a system comprising a video signal processor for producing an output signal suitable for coupling to a display device to produce a plurality of images for display to at least one viewer. The system includes a supervisor control system operable by a supervisor to create at least one viewer profile identifying images to be blocked from display to at least one viewer. The supervisor control system is operable by the supervisor to create at least one override list applicable to the viewer profile such that at least one image to be blocked is unblocked.

The office action states Casement discloses a ratings control system which blocks viewing of programs which are broadcast with ratings (figure 2D) or spending information

(figures 2F and 2G) which are outside a normal profile set by a supervisor, which permits the supervisor to temporarily modify the ratings profile (figure 2D).

However, Casement fails to disclose an override list to be applied to the viewer profile. Casement discloses no more than temporarily overriding a blocked program by entering a password upon tuning to the blocked program and entering. As per the abstract of Casement the user profile is created as follows:

"Criteria for blocking television programs from being viewed are entered by a user with a password." Regarding unblocking of a blocked program, Casement states (abstract):

"A television program listing is selected for viewing or recording from an on-screen program guide. A viewer is prompted on the screen to enter a password if the selected program meets the blocking criterion. If a viewer enters the appropriate password, the selected program that meets the blocking criterion is unblocked. The blocking criterion is restored after the program is over or the program is no longer tuned to."

There is simply no disclosure or suggestion whatsoever by Casement, or by any of the cited references, taken alone or in combination, of "creating an override list" as recited in applicant's claim 10, and supported in applicant's specification, for example, on page 7 lines 5 - 10, and in applicant's Figure 1 at 17.

Claims 11-22 depend from claim 10 and therefore include the limitations of claim 10. Accordingly, applicant believes claims 10-22 are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 6-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Casement in view of Schein. Claims 6-9 are hereby canceled. New independent method claim 21 is added. New dependent method claims 22 through 24 are added.

Claim 6

The office action states Casement discloses the limitations of claim 6 (see claim 1 rejection for the profile of the supervisor.) The office action states Casement discloses a television schedule system (column 2, lines 50-52). The office action admits Casement fails to show more than one profile comprising of all the limitations.

The office action states Schein discloses users identifying themselves on a system either by name, code word, or user number and producing a guide with favorite programs (column 12, lines 39-52). The office action states it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Casement to have the

television schedule system have user IDs for different users as taught by Schein in order to have personal preferences saved on the profiles of each individual user.

Applicant hereby presents new Claim 23 directed to a method for blocking viewing by at least one viewer. The method comprises the steps of creating a viewer profile identifying images to be blocked for a corresponding viewer and creating an override list to be applied to the viewer profile so as to allow the corresponding viewer to view at least a portion of the blocked images.

There is no disclosure or suggestion in Casement or Schein, taken either alone or in combination, of creating an override list to be applied to the viewer profile. Therefore applicant believes new claim 23 and claims 24-29 depending therefrom are novel and unobvious in view of the cited references taken alone or in combination, and are therefore allowable.

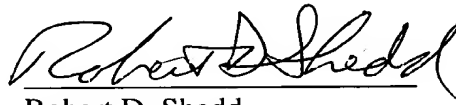
SUMMARY

In view of the above, applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § § 103(a) & 102(e). Furthermore, in view of the terminal disclaimers filed herewith, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the double patenting rejections cited in the office action. Therefore allowance of claims claims 10-29 at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephonic interview would clarify any issues raised herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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